

[Interview with Vito Cacciola #23]

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Interview with Vito Cacciola

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by

Merton R. LOVETT

. . .

“As well as remembered.”

INTERVIEW WITH VITO CACCIOLA

by

Merton R. Lovett

. . .

(from memory)

"Whata you say? Has I done good deed lika Boy Scout? So long as de good Lord is so gooda to me I musta maka de kindness.

"Not always do I maka de good deed each day. Sometimes I lacka de opportunity. If I geta chance for kindness and faila, then I am sad. Always, when I do de good deed, I am happy.

"Just de kind word does mucha good. Peoples are worry and hava mucha fear. They do not remember that God maka this a good world. I reada de Bible, Jesus say, 'Come unto me, if you are a weary and must carry too heavy weight'.

"On Park Street there liva a man. He was mucha unfortunate. Far long time he work at de United Shoe. He helpa runna de big machine. It puts de old iron, - de junk, - on the freight cars. The machine, it reacha down like this. It graba hold of two, three tons of iron. Then it lifta everything up lika this and dropa it in de car.

"One day de rope of steel break. They is a big smash. John, that is de man's name, gets a fired.

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"Then he gets job digga de sewer. By and by they digga rock. The boss musta dynamite. Some fool maka hit on cap. It goes, bang! De piece rock hitta John in eye. In de right eye he can now see nothing.

"Yes, he gets some insurance. It's all right, if his wife did not getta sick. For long time she is sick. She hava operation. De money is all gone. De wife she dies.

"Afterward he gota no job but some money from de Welfare. De childrens is little and mucha trouble. All de time he geta discourag-ed.

"One day, he say, 'Vito, I is all de time sad. I wisha I was dead. De is nothing in future for me.'

"John,' I maka reply, 'You makes big mistaka. You losa faith in de Blessed Lord. He taka care for de little birds. Of a certainty he will taka care for us.'

"Then he calla me fool. He thinka there in no God. He hava no courage.

"I tella him, 'I hava gladness in de heart because I praya and trusta God.' I say, 'I will praya for you every night. You come see me and we will maka music and reada Bible.'

"He maka de fun for me, but he comes. We talk of many things. In de old country he was de carpenter. I tella him de 3 W.P.A. uses many carpenters. I geta him to talka with de Alderman and de Mayor. I talka to them myself. By and bye he gets de good job. Now he in a happy once more.

"Yes, I think de good Lord helpa him, and because he gotta faith he also helpa himself.

"Do I thinka you can getta good job if you feela faith? For myself de Lord has done much. For you He will helpa. But you must helpa yourself too. And you must praya also."